

Message Text

SECRET

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TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

S E C R E T STATE 174444

STADIS/////////
FOR AMBASSADOR/DCM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, PK, US

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO CRUISER VISIT TO KARACHI

REF: ISLAMABAD 6650

1. IN CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OUTLINED IN REFTEL WE
WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR JUDGMENT AS TO THE EXTENT, IF ANY,
OF LIKELY AFGHAN AND INDIAN REACTION TO SUCH A TASK FORCE
STEAM BY WITH VIP VISITORS. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT
CARRIER REFERRED TO IS THE ENTERPRISE.

2. ONE POSSIBILITY WHICH OCCURRED TO US WAS TO OFFER A
SIMILAR STEAM BY AND VISIT TO GOI NEAR BOMBAY. SUCH A
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PAGE 02 STATE 174444

"VISIT" WOULD NOT RAISE LEGAL NUCLEAR ISSUES WHICH WE HAVE
FACED IN THE PAST AND ITS OFFER COULD BE SEEN AS A SYMBOLIC
ACT BALANCING THE 1971 INVOLVEMENT OF THE ENTERPRISE IN THE
AREA. EVEN IF THE GOI SHOWED NO INTEREST, IT WOULD SEEM TO
US THAT THE OFFER WOULD REDUCE THE POLITICAL "STING" OF
A VISIT SOLELY TO KARACHI.WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS? CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

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